Beanblossom Bottoms Nature Preserve

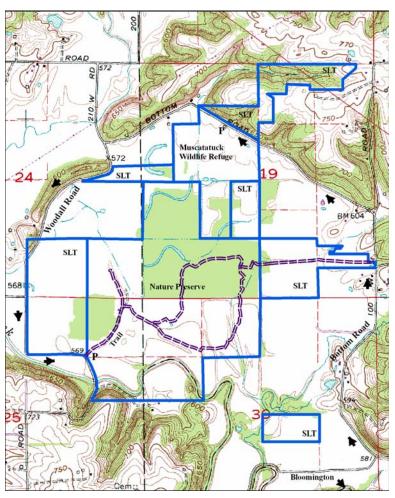
County: Monroe Size: 336.82 acres

Ownership: Sycamore Land Trust

Location and Access

Parking lots and a 2.5 mile public access trail. Spring flooding can make the area inaccessible.

From the north side of Bloomington take Bottom Road. (Kinser Pike turns into Bottom Road once across US 37) about 5 mi to the 1st parking lot (on the left) for the neighboring Muscatatuck Wildlife Refuge. An observation deck by the lot looks across the refuge. To get to the 2nd parking area (for the trail), continue on Bottom Road about 0.7 mi to Woodall Road and turn left. Go about 1.3 mi on Woodall Road to the parking area (on the left), which is just past a gate at a sharp right curve. The trail head is next to the parking area.



Further Information:

Sycamore Land Trust. PO Box 7801. Bloomington IN 47401-7801. 812-336-5382. www.sycamorelandtrust.org

Division of Nature Preserves. 402 W Washington St, Rm W267. Indianapolis IN 46204-2243. 317-232-0209.



Description:

and eagles.

Beanblossom Bottoms is a relatively high-quality mesic floodplain forest bordered by wet meadows and successional fields. Representative tree species include swamp white oak, pin oak, swamp cottonwood, sycamore, and silver maple. Ancient stream meanders abandoned to become sloughs are often bordered by lizard's tail; wetland vegetation is diverse and found throughout the property. A small great blue heron rookery and a bald eagle nest are found in the woods. It is recognized by the National Audubon Society as a state important Bird Area. The trail is open to the public and features 2.5 miles total of elevated boardwalk, gravel, and mowed grass. Please stay on the trail to avoid disturbing the nesting herons